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㉓ Proprietor: **Kataoka, Hiroshi
5-8 Asahi 1 chome
Iyo-Mishima-shi Ehime-ken (JP)**

㉔ Inventor: **Kataoka, Hiroshi
5-8 Asahi 1 chome
Iyo-Mishima-shi Ehime-ken (JP)**

㉕ Representative: **Evans, David Charles et al
F. J. CLEVELAND & COMPANY
40-43, Chancery Lane
London, WC2A 1JQ (GB)**

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Description

This invention relates to a winder, more particularly to a winder provided with a winding shaft extraction device. The winding shaft extraction device is a device operated after one or more rolls have been completely wound on the winding shaft of the winder for the purpose of transferring the winding shaft to a position where it is completely removed from the completely wound roll or rolls and for restoring the winding shaft to its operating position after the roll or rolls have been removed from the winder.

In conventional winders the completed rolls are either removed from the winder together with the winding shaft which is then extracted therefrom, or one end of the winding shaft is detached from the winder and, with the other end still supported by the winder, the roll or rolls are pulled off the winding shaft. As this work of removing the rolls from the winding shaft is troublesome, there has been developed a winder wherein the rolls are wound on a tubular paper core rotated in the winder while being supported by cones inserted into its ends. This system cannot, however, be used in a case where a web is slit into a number of strips to be wound into an equal number of sheet rolls.

As will be clear from the following, in accordance with the present invention it is possible, even in a case where a web is slit into four strips to be wound two on each of two winding shafts, to extract the two winding shafts from the completed rolls to produce four rolls which can then be removed from the winder.

US—A—2430075 relates to strip metal coiling apparatus and provides a roll receiving apparatus which is hydraulically elevated to support the coil when ready for removal; axial pressure being applied to the coil when so supported to remove same from a mandrel to the roll receiving apparatus.

DE—A—2163 485 provides a winder for a sheet roll which comprises a sheet roll winding shaft supported at a winding position and being movable in an axial direction, a sheet roll receiver mounted to support a lower surface of a sheet roll; a winding shaft extraction means adapted to extract and replace said winding shaft to and from a winding position by axial movement of the winding shaft. The pre-characterising portion of claim 1 is based on the disclosure of this citation. This arrangement does not allow removal of sheet rolls while a new winding shaft is fitted.

The object of this invention is to provide a winder wherein the winding shaft can be extracted from the completed sheet rolls so as to make them ready for removal from the winder without first removing the winding shaft from the winder, and wherein a new shaft can be inserted while the rolls are still in the process of removal.

Another object of the present invention is to provide the winder with a winding torque adjuster which adjusts the winding torque by regulating the air pressure within the hollow center of the

winding shaft of the winder, and with a large number of collars which vary the frictional driving engagement in accordance with the air pressure.

Another object of this invention is to provide the composite winding shaft of the winder with a locking mechanism employing spheres, the locking mechanism being provided on the outer surface of the winding shaft to facilitate fitting and removal of the winding cores.

According to the present invention the winder is characterised in that the sheet roll receiver is movable between a standby position directly below the winding shaft and a sheet roll receiving position, and between said sheet roll receiving position and a roll removal position, the arrangement being such that on completion of winding the sheet roll receiver moves to the sheet roll receiving position to allow extraction of the shaft and immediately thereafter moves laterally to the sheet roll removal position whereafter the winding shaft with a new core fitted thereupon is replaced in the winding extraction means while the sheet roll is removed.

Moreover, the winder may be provided with a composite winding shaft comprising a hollow drive shaft, driving members positioned at appropriate locations on the outer surface of the hollow drive shaft and capable of protruding on application of compressed air into the interior of the hollow drive shaft, collars loosely fitted onto the hollow shaft and driven by frictional engagement with the outer surface of the driving members, and means for transmitting the rotation of the collars to the winding core. The collars can be provided in a number such as to extend over the full effective length of the winding shaft. The compressed air can be introduced from one end of the hollow shaft so as to cause an elastic tube to expand and push spheres of the driving members into contact with the inner surface of the collars.

Also, the winder may be provided with a composite winding shaft comprising a number of collars uniformly spaced in the axial direction, each collar having inclined troughs formed in the circumferential direction on its outer surface and each trough containing a sphere capable of rotating in all directions. With this arrangement, the spheres push upwardly onto a paper core fitted thereover only when they are positioned at a shallow part of the inclined floor of the inclined troughs.

Contrary to the conventional system wherein the completed sheet rolls are removed from the winding shaft after the winding shaft has been removed from the winder, the present invention provides a new system wherein the winding shaft is extracted from the sheet rolls in their as-wound position and then, after the sheet rolls have been removed from the winder, is restored to its winding position. The operation of extracting the driving shaft from the sheet rolls is facilitated by the fact that, following completion of the winding operation, a roll receiver is immediately moved beneath the completed rolls so that the rolls will rest thereon after extraction of the driving shaft,

and by the fact that the extraction of the winding shaft can be accomplished by a straight pulling operation. Moreover, the winder according to the present invention permits a considerable simplification of the bearings for the winding shaft since, differently from the conventional system, there is no need to support the winding shaft from one end only while it still bears the heavy weight of the sheet rolls.

The winder according to this invention makes possible an improvement in operational efficiency since after the roll receiver has received the completed sheet rolls, it can be swung horizontally by some small amount so as to allow the operation of removing the finished sheet rolls and the operations of restoring the winding shaft to its operating position and fitting a new winding core thereon can be carried out at the same time.

As the winding shaft is extracted from the sheet rolls after they are supported on the roll receiver, there is no danger as in the conventional winder of the surface of the sheet rolls being damaged by an impact sustained by falling onto a receiving surface the moment that the winding shaft is extracted.

With the winder in accordance with the present invention, it is also possible to link the feed roller for unwinding the web from the web roll with the touch roller in contact with the sheet roll being wound via a speed change device. In this way, it is possible to adjust the tension in the web to have one level of tension appropriate for unwinding and feeding the web between the web roll and the feed roller and another level of tension appropriate for the winding operation between the feed roller and the sheet roll being wound. As a result of this ability to provide one level of tension for unwinding the web and another level of tension for winding the sheet roll within one and the same path of web travel, there is obtained both an improvement in operating efficiency and an improvement in the quality of the sheet rolls produced.

Further, by the application of air pressure to the interior of the winding shaft, it is possible with the winder in accordance with this invention to have all of the large number of collars provided along the full length of the driving shaft operate with uniform driving force. Thus, as winding force is provided by a number of collars that is proportional to the length of the winding core, the winding torque is proportional to the width of the sheet being wound. Differently from the conventionally used frictional drive collars, there is no difference between the winding force of the collars between the ends and the middle of the winding shaft. By properly adjusting the air pressure applied to the interior of the winding shaft, it is possible to wind the sheet roll using a torque ideally matched to the type of material, thickness and width of the web.

The winder of the present invention can also be provided on the surface of its winding shaft with a locking means consisting of spheres contained in

inclined troughs. The principle involved in this locking mechanism is the same as that of the known roller clutch. However, spheres not only provide a check action like that of the rollers of a roller clutch, but also act as ball bearings which facilitate the insertion and extraction of the winding roller to and from the winding cores (paper tubes). Thus the work of insertion and extraction is made much easier than it has been heretofore.

What is more, as the core is retained on the winding shaft by spheres, there is no possibility of the interior of the core being damaged or of the surface of the sheet rolls being soiled by paper dust as often happens when the inside of the winding core is gripped in the conventional way by sharp edges that dig into the core material.

Following is a description by way of example only and with reference to the accompanying drawings of methods of carrying the invention into effect.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a front view of one embodiment of the winder according to the present invention,

Figure 2 is a side view of the embodiment of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a sectional view of the winding shaft extraction/restoration device of the same embodiment,

Figure 4 is a view of the movable bearing housing and the carriage of the winding shaft extraction/restoration device of the same embodiment as seen in the axial direction of the winding shaft,

Figure 5 is a plan view of the roll receiver of the same embodiment,

Figure 6 is a side view of the speed change device for changing the tension of the web of the same embodiment,

Figure 7 is an explanatory view showing the internal structure of a conventional winding shaft,

Figure 8 is an explanatory view showing the slip collar of Figure 7,

Figure 9 is an explanatory view showing the key-slotted collar of Figure 7,

Figure 10 is an overall view of the winding shaft in accordance with the present invention,

Figure 11 is a cross-sectional view of the winding shaft shown in Figure 10,

Figure 12 is front view of a collar of the same winding shaft,

Figure 13 is a side view of the collar shown in Figure 12,

Figure 14 is a plan view of the same collar, and

Figure 15 is a schematic view of the tension control system of the winder according to the present invention.

Figure 1 is a front view and Figure 2 a side view of one embodiment of the present invention. The main components of this embodiment are roll receivers 1 which, following the completion of the winding of rolls R, move from standby positions to positions where they support the rolls R from underneath, and winding shaft extraction/restoration devices 3 which extract the winding shafts in their axial directions from the sheet

winding positions A and then restore them to the same positions.

The winder of this embodiment also comprises a rewind unit 4 for a web roll S_0 and a slit 5. Web S is drawn from the web roll S_0 and passed via a known arrangement of rollers to the slit 5 where it is in this embodiment slit into four sheets by knife or circular blades, two of which sheets are passed to each of the upper and lower winding shafts 2 to produce a total of four sheet rolls R. (See Figure 2.) These features of the winder are all well known.

The characterizing feature of this invention becomes apparent at the time the wound sheet rolls are removed from the winder. In conventional winders, the upper and lower winding shafts are either completely removed and replaced with new shafts or each winding shaft is removed from its bearing at one end and swung to one side, whereafter the sheet roll is pushed off the shaft. In the case of this invention, a motor 6 (Figure 1) is operated to move the roll receivers 1 from their lower standby positions to positions where they support the sheet rolls R from underneath or to positions immediately prior to this. Then, the extraction/restoration devices 3 shown in Figures 2 draw the winding shafts 3 to the left in the same figures to the extent that they are completely removed from the sheet rolls R but are not extracted from the left bearing.

An explanation will first be made of the structure related to the roll receivers 1 and this will then be followed by an explanation of the structure of the extraction/restoration device.

Each of the roll receivers 1 consists of two horizontal rods fastened together at both ends and supported at one end by a roll receiver support 1a. A hollow elevator column 8 is provided to stand along the main frame plate 7a of the machine frame 7. On the elevator column 8 are provided upper and lower support flanges 9. The upper and lower roll receiver supports 1a rest on the flanges 9 so as to be rotatable about the elevator column 8. The elevator column 8 is supported vertically by supports 10 projecting from the main frame plate 7a and vertical support pin 11, and is raised and lowered by the engagement between a male screw rotated by the motor 6 and an internal female screw of the elevator column 8. A stopper 7b extending from the main frame plate 7a stops the roll receiver 1 and the proper position.

Next the winding shaft extraction/restoration device 3 will be described. In this embodiment, the winding shafts 2 are supported on the left end by ball bearings 12 (Figure 3) and on the right end by center cones 13 on opposing frame plate 7c. The arrangement used on the right end is of the same type as that used conventionally. A special arrangement is, however, employed on the left side and this is shown in an enlarged view in Figure 3.

To avoid duplication of explanation, only one of the two extraction/restoration devices will be described here on the understanding that the

other is of the same construction.

Unlike the winding shaft used in conventional winders, the winding shaft 2 of this embodiment does not have fixed thereon a driven member such as a gear or pulley. Instead it is provided at one end with a clutch 14 which engages and disengages by movement in the axial direction of the winding shaft 2. Also, since it is necessary to urge the winding shaft 2 gently onto the center cone 13 at its opposite end in this embodiment, a coil spring 15 and a traveling spring washer 16 are provided between the clutch 14 and the ball bearing 12 so as to urge the shaft 2 away from the bearings 12 toward the right in the figure.

The two ball bearings 12 are housed within a movable housing 17 which plays an important role in this invention. More specifically, the movable housing 17 constantly maintains the winding shaft 2 in the right position when the shaft 2 is drawn straight out in the axial direction and when it is restored to its initial position.

The mechanism for extracting the winding shaft 2 comprises a nut 18 which fastens the end of the shaft 2 to the movable bearing housing 17 with the bearings 12 therebetween, a carriage 19 engaged with side holes 24 in the movable bearing housing 17 and used for drawing the movable bearing housing outward, rails 20 provided one on either side of the carriage 19, endless chain 21 for driving the carriage 19 along the rails 20, a support frame 22 for the chain 21, and a long hydraulic cylinder 23 for driving the support frame 22 horizontally.

Figure 4 shows the shape of the movable bearing housing 17 as seen in the axial direction. The movable bearing housing 17 and the carriage 19 are connected by pins 25 inserted into the housing 17 from the side of the carriage 19. Although not shown in the drawing, the rails 20 are supported by support members rising from the floor.

The carriage 19 moves by a distance equal to twice the forward and return strokes of the hydraulic cylinder 23. The length of the stroke is set so that in the fully extended state the right end of the winding shaft 2 is completely extracted from both of the sheet rolls R. After the right end of the winding cylinder 2 separates from the center cone 13, the winding shaft is supported by the carriage 19 and a tough resin bearing ring 26. Both the bearing ring 26 and its supporting structure are of special design. The mechanism for driving the winding shaft 2 is, similarly to the arrangement used in conventional winders, mounted on the main frame plate 7a. The final gear 27 of the drive train does not, however, drive a gear on the winding shaft as in conventional winders but instead drives an annular gear 28 having a portion for engagement with the clutch 14 on its left end and receiving the winding shaft 2 within its center opening. The annular shaft 28a of the annular gear 28 is rotatably supported at its outer surface by a pair of ball bearings fitted within the main frame plate 7a. Thus when the clutch 14 is engaged, the rotating motion of the gear 28 is

transferred to the winding shaft 2. The resin bearing ring 26 is attached to the right end of the annular gear 28 via a connector 30. Therefore, the bearing ring 26 rotates together with the winding shaft 2 during the winding operation and, when the winding shaft 2 is drawn out to be held at only one end, plays an important role as a support for the shaft 2. As the bearing ring 26 is formed of resin, there is no danger of it marring the winding core engaging surface (not shown in detail) of the winding shaft 2.

Though it was stated above that the ball bearings 29 are fitted in the main frame plate 7a, they are not fitted directly into a hole therein but are held within a sturdy support cylinder 31 fitted into a hole in the frame plate 7a. This support cylinder 31 serves as a positioning member for the movable bearing housing 17. More specifically, the left end of the support cylinder 31 is formed with a conical hole 31a shaped to receive the conical right end of the movable bearing housing 17. The conical hole 31a serves not only as a guide for receiving the movable bearing housing 17 in the proper position but also as a compensating member which offsets any precisional error in the members controlling the alignment of the winding shaft 2, namely the rails 20, the carriage 19 and the bearing ring 26 etc., so as to assure proper engagement of the concavity at the right end of the winding shaft 2 with the center cone 13. An opening 31b is provided in the support cylinder 31 for receiving the final gear 27 so as to make it possible to drive the annular gear 28 located inside thereof by means of the drive mechanism located outside thereof.

The method of use and operation of this winder will now be explained. Again, for the sake of brevity, the description will be limited to only one of the two winding shafts 2.

Once the size of the sheet rolls R to be wound has been determined, the roll receiver 1 is moved to a standby position at a point where it does not interfere with the winding operation. Next, the winding drive mechanism (not shown) is put in operation, causing the final gear 27 to rotate the annular gear 28 and rotating the winding shaft 2 which is in the winding position through the clutch 14 and a key provided on the cylindrical portion thereof.

When the sheet rolls R have been rolled to the prescribed diameter, the winding is stopped and the motor 6 is operated to raise the roll receiver 1 until it comes in contact with the underside of the sheet rolls R. Alternatively, the roll receiver 1 may be stopped just short of making contact with the sheet rolls R. At this time the hydraulic cylinder 23 (Figure 2) is operated to push the support frame 22 to the left. As a consequence, since the chain 21 is fixed at the point 32, carriage 19 engaged therewith is caused to move along the rails 20 by a distance equal to twice the stroke of the cylinder. The movable bearing housing 17 fixed to the carriage 19 is thus moved far enough to the left to pull the winding shaft clamped thereby out of its winding position. More specifically, as the wind-

ing shaft 2 moves in its axial direction guided by the rails 20, it slides within the bearing ring 26 attached to the right end of the annular gear 28 until its right end reaches the bearing ring 26, at which point it stops. The sheet rolls R are stopped in their leftward motion by the bearing ring 26 and are left resting on the roll receiver 1.

If desired, the sheet rolls R freed from the winding shaft 2 and left standing on the roll receiver 1 can at this time be removed from the winder by a crane or the like. In this embodiment of the invention, however, the roll receiver bearing the sheet rolls R is first swung horizontally to a position clear of the machine proper prior to removing the rolls R by means of a crane or the like. At the same time this operation of removing the completed rolls R is being carried out, a new winding core is manually fitted over the winding shaft 2 as it is being restored from its extracted position to its position for winding. As a result, the efficiency of the winding operation is increased.

Although the embodiment described in the foregoing is of the type having a slitter and two winding shafts, this invention can, of course, also be applied to a winder having only a single winding shaft.

The basic structure of the winder according to this invention is as described in the foregoing. Next, with reference to Figures 1—6, there will be described a web tension control device for provision in conjunction with the basic structure as the occasion necessitates.

The general principle involved in this tension control device is that of controlling the tension in the web S so as to have one level of tension at the time it is drawn from the web roll S_0 and another, different level of tension at the time it is wound onto the sheet roll R. This is accomplished by providing a speed changing device 35 through which the rotation of a feed roller 33 for drawing the web S from the web roll S_0 is transmitted to a touch roller 34. The speed change device 35 is, for example, constituted of cone pulleys 36 and a belt 37 trained thereon.

The rotation of the feed roller 33 which applies a pinching force on the web S is transmitted to the touch roller 34 which moves in accordance with the growth of the sheet roll R at a changed speed by first passing the rotation of the feed roller 33 to a positionally fixed guide roller 38 and then transmitting the rotation from the guide roller 38 to the touch roller 34 via a speed change device consisting of a pair of cone pulleys 36 and a belt 37 trained thereon. The guide roller 38 is supported on the shaft of a rocker plate (39) supporting the touch roller 34 (Figure 6). Through the operation of a belt shifter 40, the position of contact between the belt 37 and the cones 36 can be changed so as to finally change the speed of rotation of the touch roller 34. The belt shifter 40 is adjusted by turning the operating shaft 41 by means of a handle (not shown).

Through the operation of this speed change device 35, the operator of the winder can control

the tension of the web at the winding stage as by slowing the speed of rotation of the touch roller 34 so as to relieve to a desired degree the stretch occurring in the web S when it is drawn off the web roll S_0 . An adjustment to increase the stretch is, of course, also possible.

Next there will be described a winding shaft that can be effectively used to control the winding tension in the winder.

When, for example, a number of rolls are wound from a single web of wide width slit to prescribed widths by a slit (longitudinal slitting), the required number of cylindrical winding cores of a length appropriate for the width of the rolls to be produced are fitted over the winding shaft or shafts to be fitted on the winder and the slit widths of the web are wound on these cores to produce the rolls. Conventionally, as shown in Figures 7, 8 and 9, the general practice has been to alternately fit on a shaft 45a a number of slip collars 43 each having a saw-toothed plate spring 42 designed to dig into the inner surface of a core C and a number of key-slotted collars 44 each having a flange 44a for making frictional driving engagement with one of the slip collars 43, and then to press these alternately arranged members into contact with each other through the application of spring pressure in the axial direction so as to convey the rotation of the shaft 45a to the plate springs 42. With this arrangement, however, since the torque is transmitted via the frictional drive of numerous collars pressed together in the axial direction by a spring 46 at one end of the winding shaft 45a, there has been no way to avoid a pronounced difference between the amount of torque applied to the collars close to the spring 46 and that applied to the collars distant therefrom. The winding shaft of the winder in accordance with the present invention is designed to overcome this problem and makes it possible to provide the high-precision control of web tension and winding torque required to produce the high-quality rolls that have come into demand in recent years.

Figure 10 shows a front view of the winding shaft and Figure 11 shows an enlarged cross-sectional view thereof. The left end of the winding shaft as seen in Figure 10 is engaged with the device mechanism while the right end thereof is connected with a source of a compressed fluid, for example, compressed air. Neither the drive mechanism nor the source of compressed fluid is shown in the drawing. The winding shaft is supported at its opposite ends by bearings 47 and the portion of the shaft between these bearings 47 has the cross-sectional configuration shown in Figure 11. Namely, the winding shaft comprises a drive shaft 45 and a plurality of collars 51 fitted thereon. One or more paper tubes (winding cores) C are fitted over the collars 51 and the web S is wound thereon.

The collars 51 are spaced at equal intervals along the axial direction of the drive shaft 45 and are engaged therewith. The equal spacing of the

collars 51 may be obtained by arranging the collars side by side with no space therebetween, by separating them by equal distances using spacers, or by any other convenient means.

The structure of the collars is shown in Figures 12—14. Each of the collars 51 has inclined troughs 50 formed in the circumferential direction on its outer surface. Within each of the trough 50 is contained a sphere 49, in this embodiment a steel sphere, which is able to rotate in all directions. Only when the sphere 49 is positioned at a shallow part of the inclined floor 50a of the trough 50 does it push upwardly onto the paper core C fitted over the collars 51. When the sphere 49 is at a deep part of the inclined floor 50a, its outermost point is at a lower level than the outer surface of the collar 51 or, at any rate, even if it is above the surface as shown in a solid line in Figure 12, it is still within the gap between the outer surface of the collar 51 and the inner surface of the core C. However, when the sphere 49 is moved to the position of the sphere 49' shown in a chain line at the shallow end of the inclined floor 50a, it applies a firm pressure onto the inside of the core C as can be seen from Figure 11. Therefore, if the core C is subjected to a frictional force so as to resist rotation and the collar 51 is rotated in the clockwise direction in Figure 11, then the sphere 49 will move to the position 49' to produce a wedge-like effect engaging the core C with the collar 51. If the collar is rotated in the reverse direction, this engagement will be released.

In the illustrated arrangement, the effect of the spheres 49 is obtained at three equally separated points on the collar 51 and each of the three inclined floors 50a is provided with a stop pin 48 which prevents the associated sphere from protruding further than the others. As a consequence, the core C is held in a concentric relationship with the collars 51 and the drive shaft 45. Although the troughs 50 shown in the illustrated example were formed by drilling the material of the collar 51 in the tangential direction by use of a jig, it is also possible to form them by using an end mill to machine the collar material from above. In this latter case, the trough formed will have straight walls which are incapable of retaining the sphere. This can be remedied by driving a chisel into the metal at the edges of the trough to push the edges toward the center.

The collars 51 are engaged with the drive shaft 45. In the illustrated example, the collars 51 are driven by frictional engagement with steel spheres 51 protruding from the outer surface of the drive shaft 45. These steel spheres 52 make contact with the inner surface of the collars 51. Each of the spheres 52 is retained within a stud 55 embedded in one segment of a three-segment collar 54. The three-segment collar 54 can be made to expand by introducing compressed air into a rubber tube 56 passing therethrough. When the supply of compressed air is cut off, the rubber tube 56 contracts to the size shown by a chain line, causing the spheres 52 to separate from the

collar 51. The studs 55 are accommodated within voids 58 of the drive shaft 45 and exposed at the surface of the drive shaft 45.

As the spheres 52 are pressed onto the collars 51 by the air pressure within the hollow shaft 45, the frictional driving force between the spheres 52 and the collar 51 can be easily adjusted by regulating the magnitude of the air pressure. The spheres 52 are attached to the studs 55 via oil-less metal retainers. The collars 51 are made of a friction resistant material such as hard steel. The engagement between the three-segment collars is attained by the known method of providing a groove on one for engagement with a projection on another so that the collars can be engaged and disengaged freely.

In the foregoing there has been described one example of a winding shaft wherein the winding torque applied to the winding core C can be controlled by regulating the air pressure within the hollow interior of the drive shaft, thereby changing the frictional driving force between the drive shaft and the collars 51 fitted thereon, and of a winding core retaining mechanism employing spheres provided on the outer surface of the collars 51.

It should be noted, however, that it is sufficient for this composite winding shaft to be provided with a hollow shaft (shaft 45 in the drawings), driving members positioned at appropriate locations on the outer surface of the hollow shaft and capable of being protruded by the application of fluid pressure to the interior of the hollow drive shaft (studs 55 and spheres 52) collars loosely fitted onto the hollow shaft and driven by frictional engagement with the outer surface of the driving members, and means for transmitting the rotation of the collars to the winding core. As a consequence, the composite winding shaft has a wide range of applications.

It is preferable to provide a large number of the collars over the full effective length of the winding shaft. As regards the fluid pressure applied to the interior of the hollow drive shaft, in the example described above, compressed air was introduced from one end of the hollow shaft so as to cause an elastic tube (rubber tube 56 in the drawings) to expand and push the spheres of the driving members into contact with the inner surface of the collars. Although this is a most practical arrangement, it is by no means the only one that can be used and persons skilled in the art will be able to design numerous variations using known techniques.

The winding control system of the winder will now be explained with reference to Figure 15.

The web S drawn from the web roll S_0 is wound into sheet rolls R, only one of which is shown in the drawing. The winding machine is powered by a motor M_1 for driving the feed roller 33 and a motor M_2 for driving the winding shaft. The rewind unit (denoted by 4 in Figure 1) for the web roll S_0 has a brake B and a tension control unit 60 for the rewind web. The feed roller drive motor M_1 has connected therewith an operating pattern

control unit 61 which controls all aspects of the motor's operation from the start to the finish of the winding operation, including the motor's operating speed and its rate of acceleration and deceleration at start and stop.

The speed change device 35 is located between the feed roller 33 and the touch roller 34 or between the guide roller 38 which runs synchronously with the feed roller 33 and the touch roller 34. The winding shaft 2 is provided with an air pressure regulator 62 for regulating the pressure of the compressed air supplied to the interior of the hollow shaft and a tension control unit 63 which pattern-controls the winding torque relative to the diameter of the sheet roll R being rolled. The arrow 63a pointing toward the control unit 63 denotes an input signal representing the detected diameter of the sheet roll R. The winding motor M_2 is provided with an overdrive control unit 64 for making the required adjustment for slippage in the frictional drive of the winding shaft. 64a denotes an input signal representing the detected diameter of the sheet roll R being rolled.

The line graph shown at the bottom of Figure 15 indicates the tension in the web at the corresponding positions in the path of web travel through the winder shown in the upper part of the drawing. As will be noted, the path of web travel is divided by the feed roller 33 (a pinch roller) into an unwinding tension zone preceding it and a supply tension zone following it. The tension in these zones can be set and controlled separately.

This is made possible by the provision of the speed change device 35 which makes it possible to change the speed of the touch roller 34 with respect to the speed of the feed roller 33 so that the web supply tension can be freely adjusted. In other words, the tension in the web upstream of the feed roller 33 can be maintained at a constant value T_1 while the tension downstream is adjusted to T_2 or T_2' as desired. For example, in the case of winding a highly stretchable material such as a polyethylene film, if the material is supplied to the winding unit in the form as stretched in the unwinding process, both the sheet contained in the finished roll and the overall shape of the roll itself will be deformed to such a degree that the roll will lack commercial value.

With the present invention, the tension developed in the web in the unwinding operation can be relieved, raised or lowered as desired. Then the winding tension T_3 can be subjected to the known method of taper control wherein the tension of the web is made high at the beginning of the winding and then is lowered progressively as the sheet roll grows in diameter.

Claims

1. A winder for a sheet roll (R) which comprises, a sheet roll winding shaft (2) supported at a winding position and being movable at an axial direction;
- a sheet roll receiver (1) mounted to support a lower surface of a sheet roll;

a winding shaft extraction means (3) adapted to extract and replace said winding shaft (2) to and from a winding position by axial movement of the winding shaft;

characterised in that the sheet roll receiver (1) is movable between a standby position directly below the winding shaft (2) and a sheet roll receiving position, and between said sheet roll receiving position and a sheet roll removal position,

the arrangement being such that on completion of winding the sheet roll receiver (1) moves to the sheet roll receiving position to allow extraction of the shaft (2), and immediately thereafter moves laterally to the sheet roll removal position whereafter the winding shaft (2) with a new core fitted thereupon is replaced by the winding extraction means (3) while the sheet roll (R) is removed.

2. A winder as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said winding shaft (2) comprises a hollow shaft (45), driving members (54) capable of protruding on application of fluid pressure thereto into the interior of said hollow shaft (45), collars (51) loosely fitted onto said hollow shaft and driven by frictional engagement with the outer surface of said driving members (54), and means (49) for transmitting the rotation of said collars (51) to a winding core (C).

3. A winder as claimed in Claim 3, wherein a number of said collars (51) are fitted onto said hollow shaft (45) to extend over the full effective length of said winding shaft (2).

4. A winder as claimed in Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein said fluid pressure applied to the interior of said hollow shaft (45) is air pressure introduced into an elastic tube within (56) said hollow shaft, the expansion of said elastic tube (56) under said air pressure causing steel spheres (52) constituting the outermost part of said driving members (54) to be pushed onto the inner surface of said collars (51).

5. A winder as claimed in any preceding claim wherein said winding shaft (2) comprises a number of collars (51) uniformly spaced in the axial direction, each collar having inclined troughs (50) formed in the circumferential direction on its outer surface and each trough containing a sphere (49) capable of rotating in all directions, whereby said spheres push upwardly onto a paper winding core (C) fitted over said collars only when they are positioned at a shallow part of the inclined floor of the inclined troughs.

Patentansprüche

1. Wickelvorrichtung für eine Bogenrolle (R) mit einer Bogenrollenwickelwelle (2), die an einem Wickelort gehalten wird und in einer Axialrichtung beweglich ist;

einer Bogenrollenaufnahmevorrichtung (1), die zur Halterung einer Bogenrollenunterfläche angebracht ist,

einer Wickelwellenausziehvorrichtung (3), die durch eine Axialbewegung der Wickelwelle zum Ausziehen und Austauschen der besagten Wickel-

welle (2) in und aus einem Wickelort eingerichtet ist;

dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Bogenrollenaufnahmevorrichtung (1) zwischen einer Bereitschaftslage direkt unter der Wickelwelle (2) und einem Bogenrollenaufnahmeort und zwischen besagtem Bogenrollenaufnahmeort und einem Bogenrollenentfernungsort beweglich ist,

indem die Anordnung eine solche ist, daß die Bogenrollenaufnahmevorrichtung (1) nach Beendigung des Wickelns zum Bogenrollenaufnahmeort läuft, um das Ausziehen der Welle (2) zu ermöglichen und sich sofort danach seitlich zum Bogenrollenentfernungsort bewegt, wo die mit einem neuen Kern versehene Wickelwelle (2) mit der Wickelausziehvorrichtung (3) ausgetauscht wird, während die Bogenrolle (R) entfernt wird.

2. Wickelvorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Wickelwelle (2) eine Hohlwelle (45); Antriebsteile (54), die nach Aufbringung eines hydrostatischen Drucks im Inneren der besagten Hohlwelle (45) vorstehen können; an der besagten Hohlwelle lose angebrachte und durch Reibungseindrücken mit der Mantelfläche der besagten Antriebsteile (54) getriebene Manschetten (51) und Mittel (49) zur Übertragung der Drehung der besagten Manschetten (51) auf einen Wickelkern (C) umfaßt.

3. Wickelvorrichtung nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß besagte Manschetten (51) an der besagten Hohlwelle (45) angebracht sind und sich über die gesamte wirksame Länge der besagten Wickelwelle (2) erstrecken.

4. Wickelvorrichtung nach Anspruch 2 oder 3, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß es sich bei dem besagten, auf das Innere der besagten Hohlwelle (45) aufgebrachten hydrostatischen Druck um in ein elastisches Rohr (56) innerhalb der besagten Hohlwelle eingeführten Luftdruck handelt, wobei die Ausdehnung des besagten elastischen Rohres (56) unter besagtem Luftdruck veranlaßt, daß die den am weitesten außen liegenden Teil der besagten Antriebsteile (54) bildenden Stahlkugeln (52) auf die Innenfläche der besagten Manschetten (51) gedrückt werden.

5. Wickelvorrichtung nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß besagte Wickelwelle (2) eine Anzahl von Manschetten (51) umfaßt, die gleichmäßig in der Axialrichtung verteilt sind, wobei jede Manschette in der Umfangsrichtung auf ihrer Mantelfläche gebildete geneigte Mulden (50) besitzt und jede Mulde eine Kugel (49) enthält, die in der Lage ist, sich in allen Richtungen zu drehen, wobei die besagten Kugeln nur nach oben auf einen über den besagten Manschetten angebrachten Papierwickelkern (C) drücken, wenn sie in einem flachen Teil des schrägen Bodens der geneigten Mulden positioniert sind.

Revendications

1. Enrouleuse pour rouleau de produit en bande (R) comportant:

— un arbre (2) d'enroulement du rouleau, sup-

porté en position d'enroulement et mobile selon une direction axiale,

— un récepteur (1) de rouleau, monté de façon à supporter une surface inférieure d'un rouleau,
— un moyen (3) d'extraction de l'arbre d'enroulement, adapté à extraire l'arbre d'enroulement (2) de sa position d'enroulement et le replacer en position d'enroulement par déplacement axial de l'arbre d'enroulement,

caractérisée en ce que le récepteur (1) de rouleau peut se déplacer entre une position d'attente, immédiatement sous l'arbre d'enroulement (2), et une position de réception de rouleau, et entre ladite position de réception de rouleau et une position d'enlèvement de rouleau, la disposition étant telle qu'à l'achèvement de l'enroulement, le récepteur (1) de rouleau passe en position de réception du rouleau pour permettre l'extraction de l'arbre (2) et, immédiatement après, se déplace latéralement en position d'enlèvement du rouleau, après quoi le moyen (3) d'extraction de l'arbre d'enroulement replace l'arbre d'enroulement (2) sur lequel est monté un nouveau mandrin, tandis que l'on enlève le rouleau de produit en bande (R).

2. Enrouleuse conforme à la revendication 1, dans laquelle l'arbre d'enroulement (2) comporte un arbre creux (45), des organes d'entraînement (54) pouvant faire saillie lorsqu'on leur applique la pression d'un fluide à l'intérieur de l'arbre creux (45), des viroles (51) montées, sans serrage, sur l'arbre creux et entraînées par friction avec la surface extérieure des organes d'entraînement (54),

et des moyens (49) pour transmettre la rotation des viroles (51) à un mandrin d'enroulement (C).

3. Enrouleuse conforme à la revendication 2, dans laquelle un certain nombre de viroles (51) est monté sur l'arbre creux (45) pour s'étendre sur toute la longueur efficace de l'arbre d'enroulement (2).

4. Enrouleuse conforme à la revendication 2 ou à la revendication 3, dans laquelle la pression de fluide appliquée à l'intérieur de l'arbre creux (45) est une pression d'air introduite dans un tube élastique (56) se trouvant dans l'arbre creux, la dilatation de ce tube élastique (56) sous l'action de cette pression d'air agissant pour que des sphères d'acier (52), qui constituent la partie extérieure extrême des organes d'entraînement (54), soient poussées contre la surface intérieure des viroles (51).

5. Enrouleuse conforme à l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans laquelle l'arbre d'enroulement (2) comporte un certain nombre de viroles (51) uniformément espacées selon la direction axiale, chaque virole présentant des cuvettes inclinées (50) formées dans la direction circonférentielle sur sa surface extérieure et chaque cuvette contenant une sphère (49) capable de tourner dans toutes les directions, de sorte que ces sphères (49), uniquement lorsqu'elles se trouvent dans une partie peu profonde du fond incliné des cuvettes inclinées, poussent vers le haut contre un mandrin d'enroulement en papier (C) monté sur lesdites viroles.

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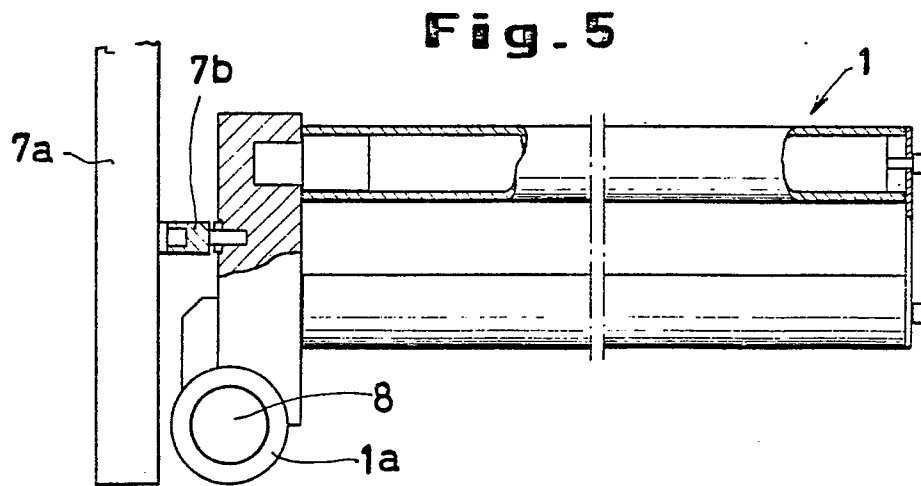
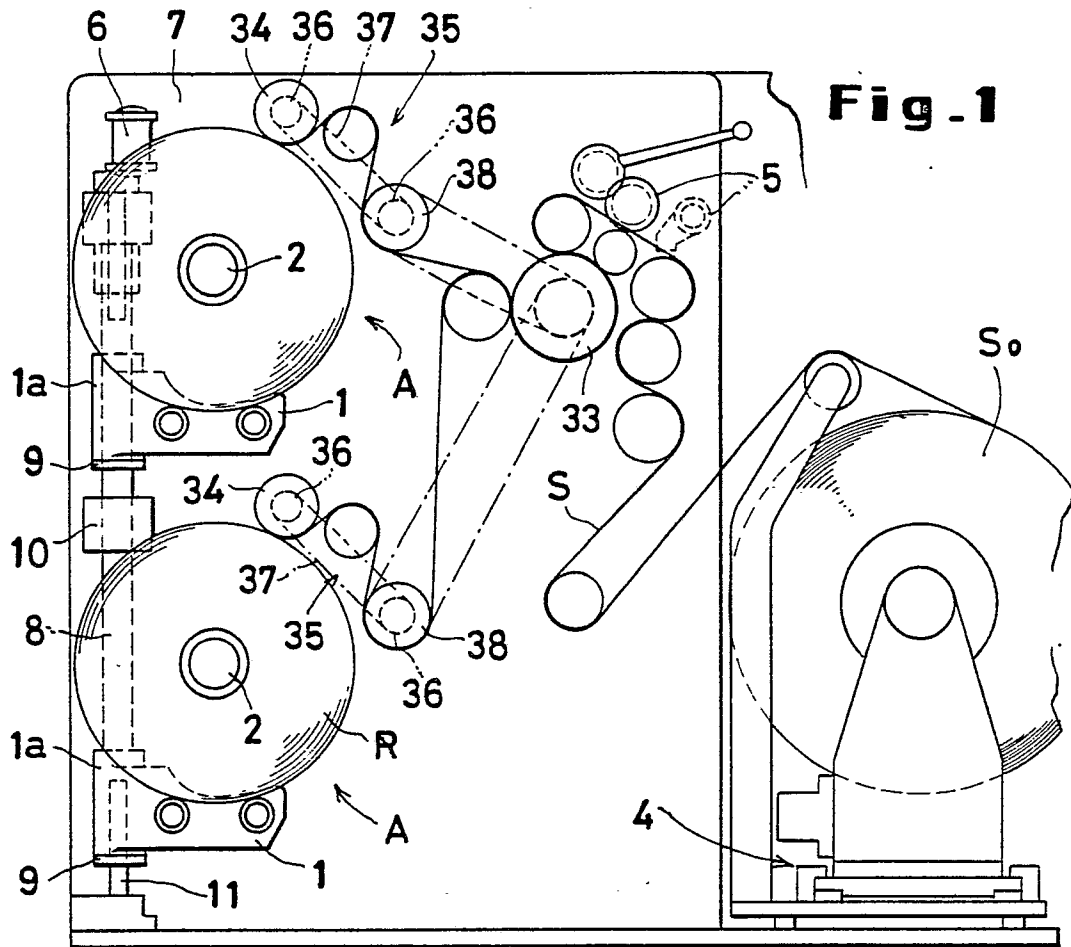


Fig. 2

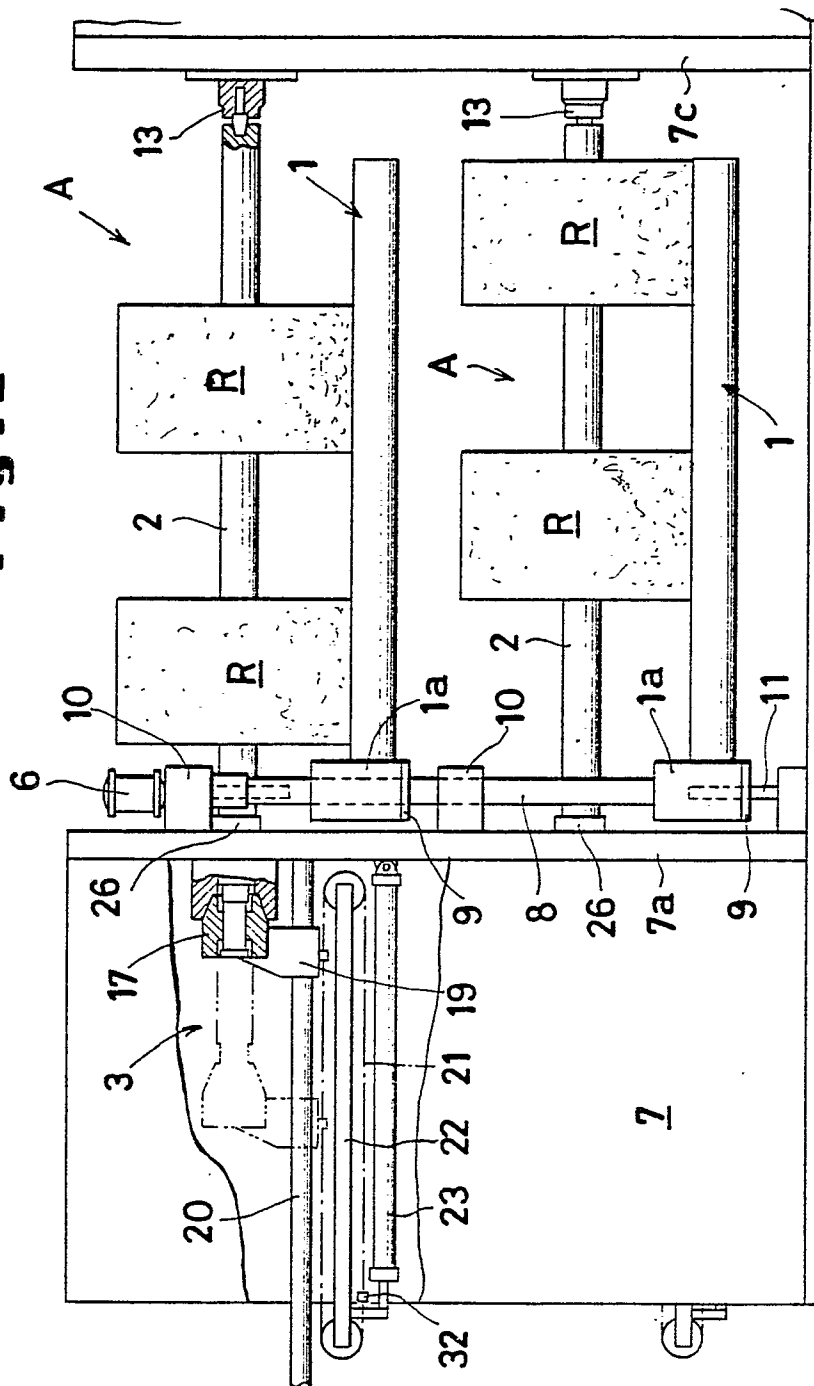


Fig - 3

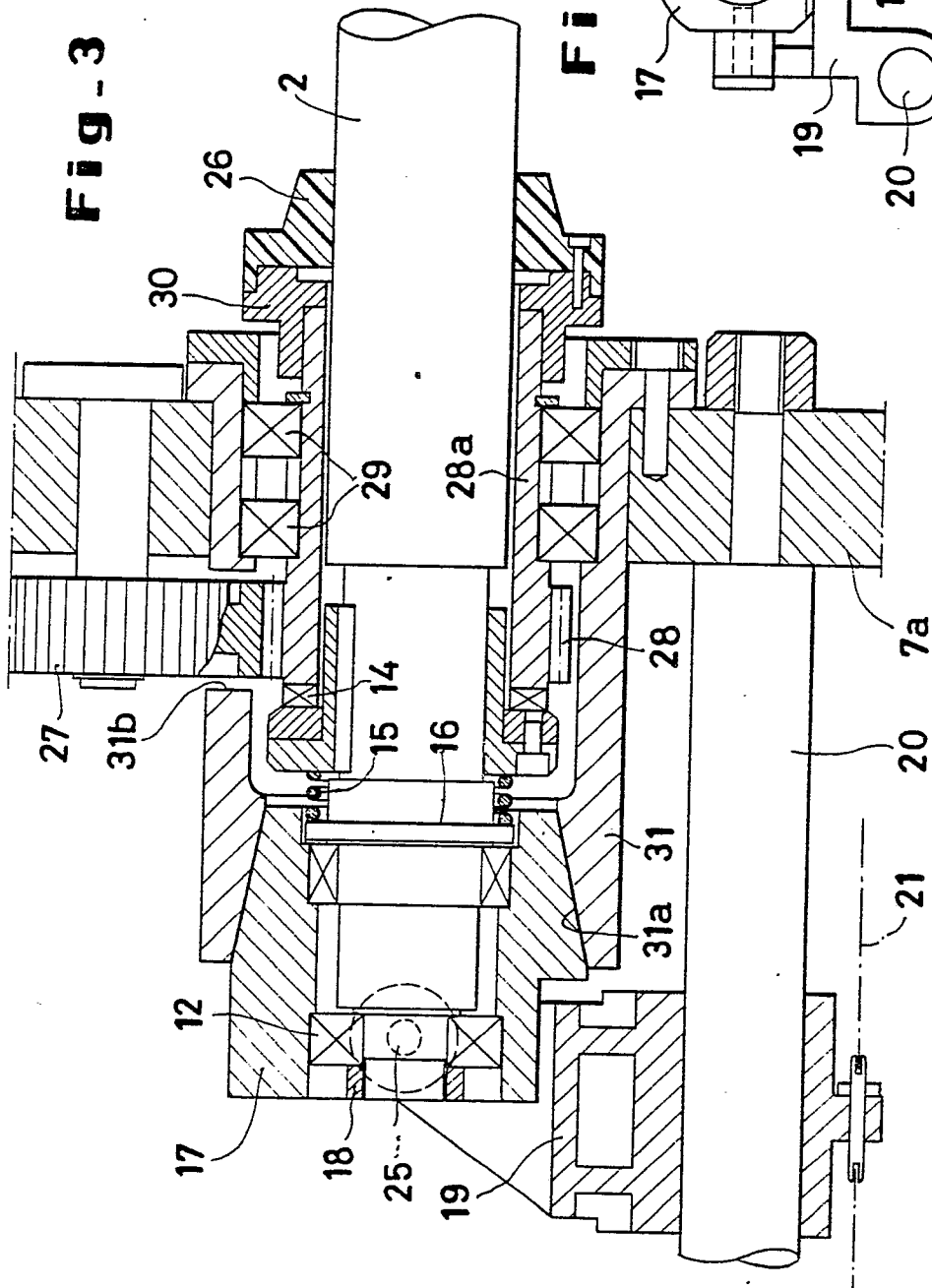


Fig - 4

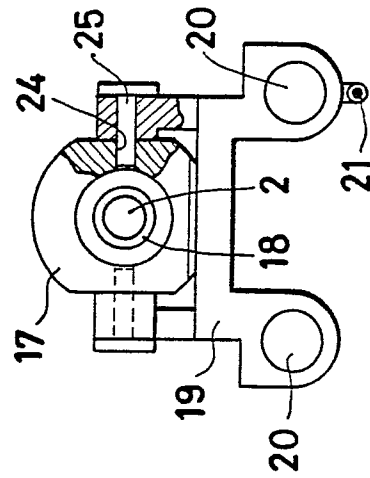


Fig - 6

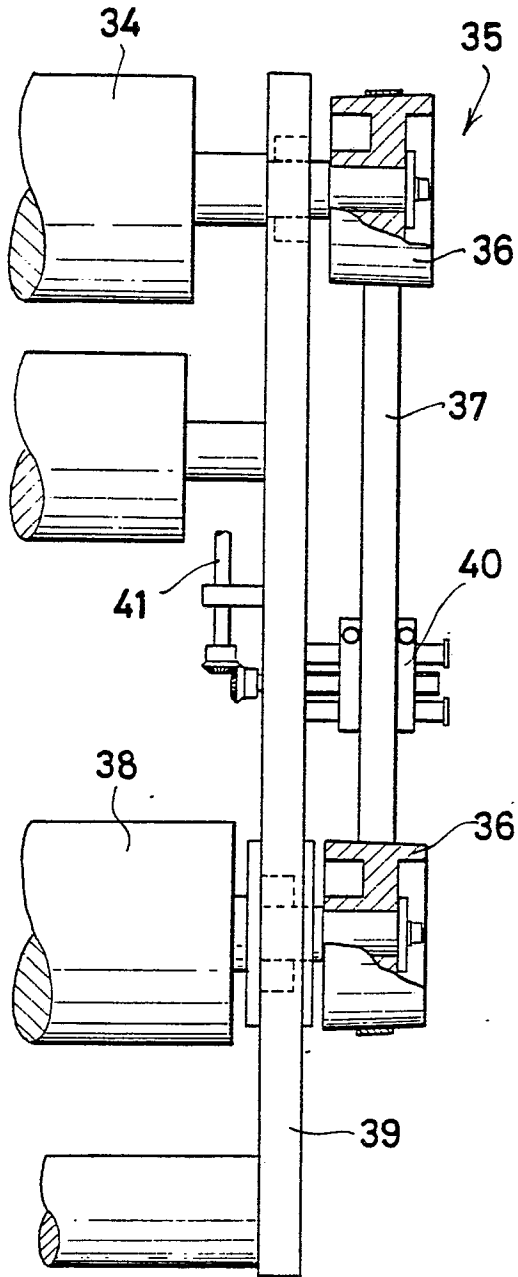


Fig - 8

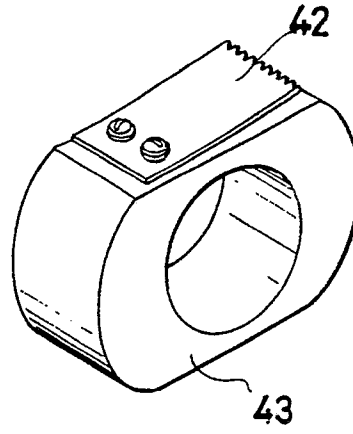


Fig - 9

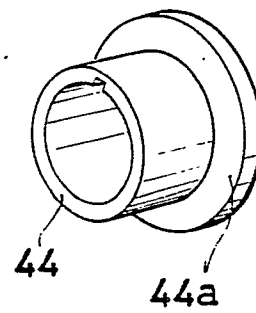


Fig. 7

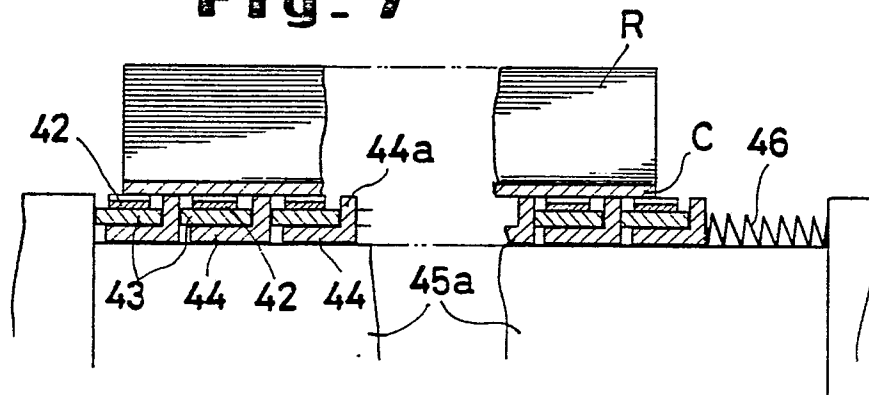


Fig. 10

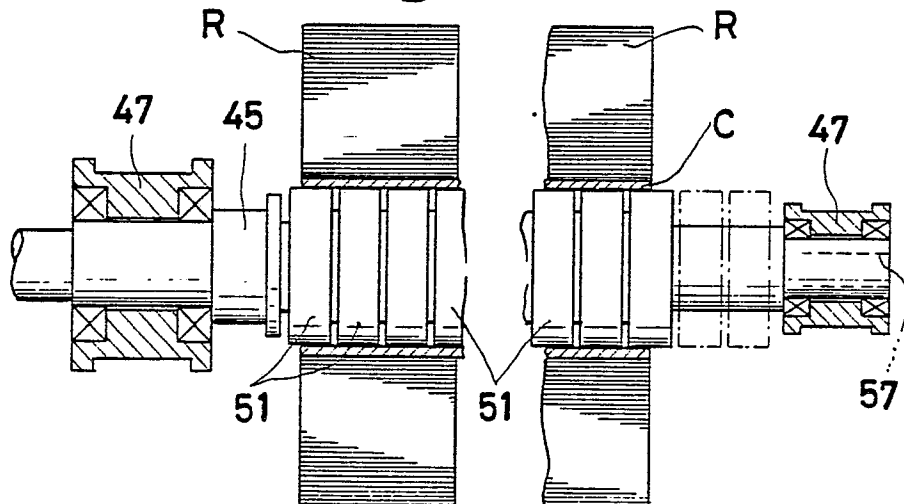


Fig. 11

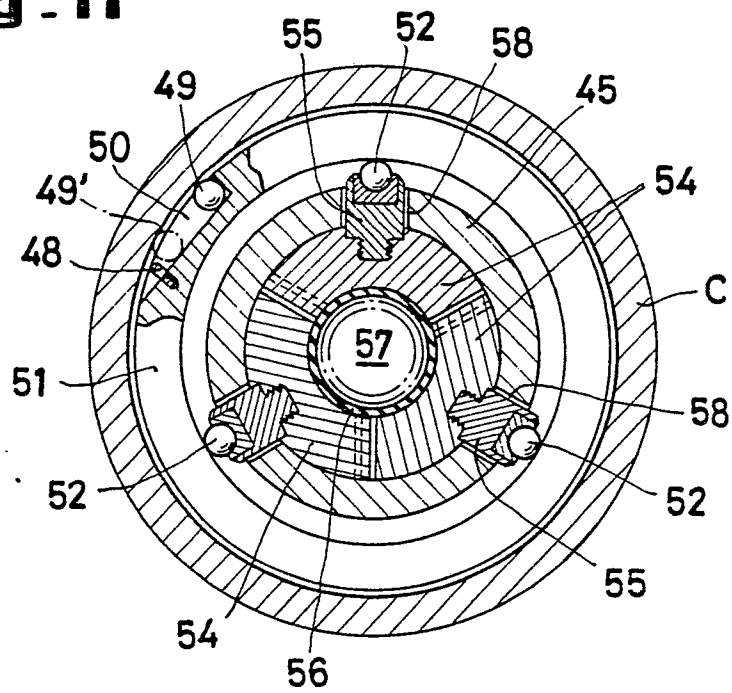


Fig. 12

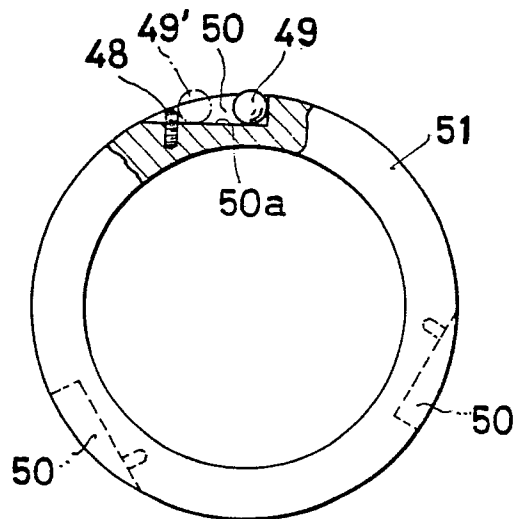


Fig. 13

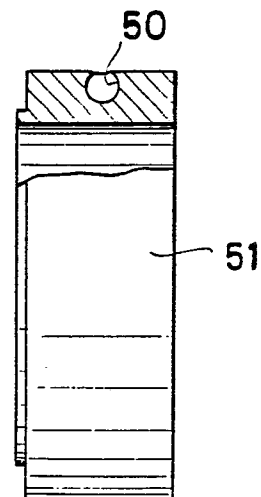


Fig.14

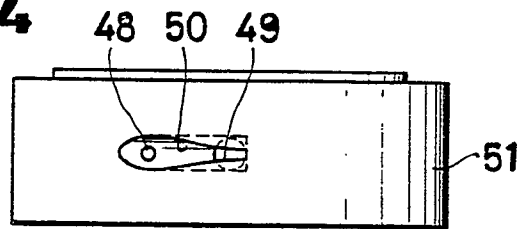


Fig.15

